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BRIEFING MEMORANDUM

August 4, 1994

TO: Ambassador Albright

THRU: Ambassador Gnehm
Ambassador InderfurthFROM: POL - Cameron Hume *MRON*

SUBJECT: August 4 Security Council Informals: Rwanda

BACKGROUND

U/SYG DeSoto will provide another briefing on the situation in Rwanda and the refugee camps. Ladsous may also, as usual, provide counterpoint to the U/SYG presentation.

You may want to address two issues today. First of all, a new Canadian, MGEN Tousignant, will replace GEN Dellaire as UNAMIR force commander in mid-August. This would be a good time to commend Gen Dellaire on his leadership of UNAMIR during a time of enormously difficult obstacles.

The second issue is the question of repatriation of refugees. Specifically, what the UN can do to encourage returns. It seems clear that the obstacles to return are mounting even as the international community is pulling together to provide massive amounts of aid: the French are continuing to pull out troops, Hutu propaganda is not diminishing, and the RPF may not be doing all they can to encourage return. You might want to suggest that the Council consider further measures to encourage return such as human rights monitors inside Rwanda and heightened attention to political reconciliation.

TALKING POINTS

- o I understand that the UNAMIR force commander, GEN Dellaire, will be replaced by MGEN Tousignant in a couple weeks. I would like to take this opportunity to commend GEN Dellaire on his outstanding stewardship of UNAMIR during a time of enormous obstacles.
- o GEN Dellaire has truly seen UNAMIR through the worst of times and has managed to save a tremendous number of lives with few resources.
- o My government extends its thanks to GEN Dellaire and looks forward to the arrival of GEN Tousignant.
- o On another subject, I would like to raise the critical issue of refugee return.

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- o Even as the international community pulls together to mount a massive relief effort, we must pay more attention to the best means of insuring that Rwandan refugees will return to their homes, and return safely.
- o I would suggest that we all think about further steps we can take on this most important issue. In particular, steps that can be taken to counter the propaganda campaign being mounted by Hutu extremists in refugee camps.

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